

For the accompanying ladies, trips will be arranged to the "University Skyscraper," the Carnegie Museum and other points of interest in and about the city. Luncheons and other entertainments will also be provided.

If weather permits impromptu geological trips will be made. Other excursions to the Gulf Research Laboratories, the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, the Carnegie Museum and similar points of interest may be arranged.

Local geologists will be glad to make tentative plans for informal trips. Any one interested should communicate with Dr. Charles R. Fettke, chairman of the Excursion Committee. His address is 1118 Wightman Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Associated societies which will hold meetings in conjunction with the society are as follows:

*The Paleontological Society*, thirty-seventh annual meeting, Secretary, H. E. Vokes, the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore 38, Maryland.

*The Mineralogical Society of America*, twenty-sixth annual meeting, Secretary, C. S. Hurlburt, Jr., Department of Mineralogy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

*The Society of Economic Geologists*, twenty-sixth annual meeting, Secretary, C. H. Behre, Jr., Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

*The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology*, fifth annual meeting, Secretary, E. H. Colbert, the American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL MEETINGS AT SAINT LOUIS

SECTION I of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Midwestern Psychological Association are meeting jointly in Saint Louis from March 28-30, 1946. Aside from the addresses of the vice-president of Section I and the president of the Midwestern Association, the program will be devoted to the usual papers. Abstracts in quadruplicate not exceeding 300 words in length should be sent to Dael Wolfe, Department of Psychology, University of Chicago, Chicago 37. The dead line for receipt of abstracts in Chicago is January 20. The abstracts will be turned over to a joint program committee to be announced later.

Papers will be limited to fifteen minutes in length, and ten-minute papers will also be scheduled. Any lantern slides should be included in the time limit for the paper. If a lantern is needed, this fact should be specified in the abstract. The time desired (ten or fifteen minutes) should also be noted. Each abstract should be accompanied by an additional short abstract of fifty words to be published as part of the proceedings. It should also be accompanied by a signed statement, as follows: "If this paper is accepted and

placed on the program, I agree to be present in person to deliver it unless circumstances beyond my control prevent me from attending."

HAROLD E. BURTT, *Secretary of Section I,  
American Association for the Advancement  
of Science*

## A TRIBUTE TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL ZOOLOGY

THE one hundredth volume of the *Journal of Experimental Zoology* is coming off the press. The editorial board which serves this journal and American biology merits an expression of admiration both for their service to the journal and for their truly remarkable and effective longevity.

On this board are the names of eight internationally known biologists whose contributions to scientific literature represent a distinct epoch in the history of experimental biology in America. Since the founding of the journal and the appearance of the first volume in 1904 Dr. Ross G. Harrison, who on January 13, 1946, will be 76 years of age, has served as managing editor. I am told that with the completion of the one hundredth volume he will have edited 50,000 printed pages. The other members of this board are also so well known from their scientific contributions and their influence upon American biology that what I might attempt to say here could not possibly do them justice. The main point before us is their continued function at ages far beyond that where many men not only cease to function but cease to enjoy living.

Professor William E. Castle has just passed his 78th birthday. Professor Edwin G. Conklin is now at the beginning of his 83rd year. Professor Herbert S. Jennings will be 78 years old on April next. Professor Frank R. Lillie will be 76 years old on his next birthday. The late Professor Thomas H. Morgan reached his 79th birthday in September last. Professor George H. Parker will celebrate his 81st anniversary before the new year. The only member of this board who might be considered as a veritable youth is Professor Merkel H. Jacobs, who is at the tender age of 62.

It seems extremely doubtful whether a similar record will ever be achieved again by any group of experimental biologists. They not only deserve but receive the felicitations of the entire biological world.

SAMUEL R. DETWILER

## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### LETTER FROM PROFESSOR MARCEL FLORKIN

Dr. Harold F. Blum, of the Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda, Md., has recently received a

long account from Professor Marcel Florquin, of the University of Liège, regarding the activities of himself and close associates, particularly Professors Fredericq, Bouillene, Gratia and Bacq, during the war. All these professors and their families are safe, but their story has been one of repeated flight and return, teaching and research under great difficulties, with participation in the resistance movement as a matter of course, necessitating flight into the "maquis" in some instances.

The University of Liège has suffered tremendous damage, both from the German flying bombs and the air bombings of the Allies, particularly our own. The School of Applied Sciences, the Institute de Mécanique, the Institute of Civil Engineering and the seventeenth century abbey housing the Fatigue Laboratory were all badly hit. The School of Mineralogy with its collections was burned. The School of Business Administration with its library and collections was completely destroyed. A flying bomb wrecked the building containing the laboratories of pathology, bacteriology, pathological anatomy and medical chemistry, and another struck the Institute of Physiology and Biochemistry. Still another broke all the glass in Professor Bouillene's botanical conservatory containing a large collection of tropical plants, which were all killed by the winter weather.

The whole picture is one of a great university terribly maimed, with its faculty trying to hope and to carry on with no prospect of immediate succor.

The library situation is particularly bad, as the following quotation will indicate:

Our university had about 800,000 books in 1940. In May, 1940, when the bridges of the Meuse were blown up, the roof of the library was destroyed and the books were taken away to different shelters, among them a bank in the rue de l'Université hired for the purpose. In 1944 when the Germans set the telephone building on fire, the bank was also burned. The firemen sent a lot of water into it which came down into the cellars where the books were, with the irremediable loss of 50,000 books. And later in December a flying bomb hit another book shelter with new losses. I could not describe the present state of the accumulations of books dispersed in several places and getting slowly lost.

The story of the University of Liège seems to have been one of considerable gallantry under conditions which must many times have seemed hopeless, followed by paralyzing destruction.

#### LETTER FROM PROFESSOR MICHEL LEGRAYE

Dr. Eliot Blackwelder, of Stanford University, has received the following letter, dated November 13, from Professor Michel Legraye, of the University of Liège, Belgium:

We tried to keep the university active; it was the only way to save thousands of young men from deportation to Germany; it was not easy, but we succeeded until the last moment. Then, after liberation, came for Liège the terrible months of flying bombs: more than a thousand on the city; hard days, much devastation and loss of life. When the Germans left Liège, they put the telephone building on fire and the Mineralogical Institute and collections, which were adjoining, disappeared. A few months before liberation, the finest buildings of our university had been destroyed by American bombers aiming at a nearby railway bridge. But we are free, we live again, we rebuild—but slowly! In the last days I had a narrow escape from SS murderers; M. Fourmarier too; before, he had spent one month in jail. I tried to keep the Geological Society going on, and I succeeded without any interference from the Germans.

#### LETTER FROM DR. G. H. R. VON KOENIGSWALD

A letter from Dr. G. H. R. von Koenigswald, dated Bandoeng (Java), October 23, has been received by Dr. Franz Weidenreich, of the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Dr. von Koenigswald writes:

I am alive, and this is a great thing after three and a half years of Japanese experience! Wife and daughter are quite all right, thin and nervous, and we are very happy that we are together again!

I have been a Dutch soldier during the war, and so became a POW after our capitulation. About my experiences later on: in the camp I was so lucky to belong to the translation office (Dutch-English), and so I have always been on Java in various camps in Bandoeng and Batavia. Just a few months before the Jap capitulation we came back to a terrible and overcrowded camp in Bandoeng.

With the help of neutral friends most of my books and my materials have been saved. I am glad to tell you that all our fossil human skulls and jaws are still here, only one of the Mgandong skulls (skull No. IX) has been sent to Japan and is probably lost. I am so sorry that my material has not been evacuated to America, and I thank you and your friends so much for the help you offered us, and of which I heard only after our capitulation. . . . After our mobilization, when I was not any longer in the office, my native collector was dismissed, so that there was no longer any control of the important sites. I heard that the Japs have been several times in Sangiran, but it seems that nothing of any importance has been found. I hope to go to Central Java as soon as possible, and to reestablish the old collecting system, which has yielded so good results. . . .

#### LETTER FROM DR. FRANK WHITMORE

Dr. Weidenreich writes also that some days ago the newspapers carried a story from Tokyo that Frank Whitmore, assistant staff geologist, Mining and Geology Division, Natural Resources Section, now in Tokyo, has found in the Imperial University of Tokyo

material belonging to the site of *Sinanthropus Pekinensis*. According to the report, the material was removed from Peking and taken to Tokyo by the Japanese. In one of his letters to Mrs. Whitmore, the following item is of special interest:

November 8. Such excitement! We have just recovered at Tokyo University a collection of bones and artifacts from the famous *Sinanthropus Pekinensis* site at Choukoutien, near Peking; also the original records of Davidson Black's research here; also, the complete original plans of the excavation and their financial records, 1927-1938. We want to return all this to its owner, Peiping Union Medical College, and today I'm going to scour around to see how best it can be done.

So far nothing authentic is known of the *Sinanthropus* material. A representative of the Peiping Union Medical College is in Peking and is making the necessary inquiries. He has been advised by cable to communicate with Dr. Whitmore. A second representative of the college is on the way to Peking. This new message from Tokyo and the earlier one in the newspapers, apparently from the same source, may not refer to the *Sinanthropus* material as suggested in Dr. Whitmore's letter, but rather to material from the "Upper Cave" of Choukoutien (Upper Paleolithic).

#### LETTER FROM DR. EDW. MESSIKOMMER

A letter received by Dr. Wm. Randolph Taylor, of the University of Michigan, from Dr. Edw. Messikommer in Switzerland gives some information regarding Central European phycologists, from which the most important sentences may be quoted:

Wie es um die deutschen Kollegen steht, ob sie mit dem Leben davon gekommen sind, noch in Besitze ihrer Bücher, Sammlungen u. s. w. sind, darüber sind wir noch völlig im Unklaren. Es wäre jammerschade, wenn z. B. Hustedt, Krieger, Krasske nicht mehr existieren würden und ihre angefangenen Werke nicht mehr zum Abschlusse bringen könnten. Aus Prag liegen keine erfreulichen Meldungen vor. So soll sich Pascher, nachdem er seine Familie umgebracht hat, das Leben genommen haben. Czurda soll mit seiner Familie deportiert worden sein, weiteres Schicksal unbekannt.

Dr. Taylor states that Dr. Adolph Pascher was the author of many papers, a leading authority on many groups of phytoflagellates, and editor of the widely used "Süßwasserflora Deutschlands u. s. w.," in many volumes. Dr. Viktor Czurda studied the *Zygnematales* in particular. Professor F. E. Fritsch, of Queen Mary's College, reports having heard that Dr. K. Ondraček met the same fate as Dr. Pascher. He studied the physiology of members of the *Desmidiaceae*.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Distinguished Service Award for 1945 of the American Medical Association was presented on December 5 to Dr. George R. Minot, professor of clinical medicine at the Harvard Medical School, in recognition of his work on the liver treatment of anemia. The award was made at a dinner given in his honor at the Harvard Club.

MAJOR GENERAL NORMAN T. KIRK, Surgeon General of the Army, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by General Brehon Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, in recognition of his "outstanding leadership . . . in directing the largest medical department in the history of the United States Army." In part, the accompanying citation stated, "By careful planning, efficient administration, and dynamic example he made possible extraordinary care for sick and wounded American soldiers . . . care which has never been equalled in any war."

DR. MILTON HARRIS, director of research, Milton Harris Associates, Washington, D. C., has been awarded the Olney Medal by the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists. It will be presented at the annual dinner of the association on

January 5 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, N. Y., in recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of textile chemistry.

DR. GEORGE B. DARLING, formerly president of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, who since 1943 has been associated with the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council, first as executive officer of the committees on military medicine and later as vice-chairman of the division, has been appointed executive secretary of the National Academy of Sciences and of the National Research Council.

OFFICERS for the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society of American Bacteriologists for 1946 are as follows: *President*, Dr. Harry E. Morton, department of bacteriology of the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. Amedeo Bodi, Jr., Temple University School of Medicine; *Counselor*, Dr. William F. Verwey, Sharp & Dohme Laboratories, Glenolden, Pa.; and *Counselor* (alternate), Dr. James Harrison, department of biology of Temple University.

THE National Malaria Society held its twenty-eighth annual meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, on November 13-15, conjointly with the Southern Medical As-